

\$1.75 for fox. There will be no business of importance done here until after the London auction sales, which open on the 16th inst., and will be continued in the following order: Wednesday, March 16th beaver, otter, squirrel; Thursday, March 17th, sea otter; Friday March 18th, red, blue, silver and cross fox; Monday, March 21st, raccoon; Tuesday, March 22nd, muskrat and opossum; Wednesday, March 23rd sable, marten, lynx, wolf, white fox, wolverine and ermine; Thursday, March 24th, bear, fisher and grey fox; Friday, March 25th, mink; Monday, March 28th, skunk and sundries. In New York the demand is reported good, at high prices; the only drawback to heavy transactions last week was the actual scarcity of goods. Skunk of all kinds do well there; opossum firm and in good demand; raccoon wanted, at full figures; Grey fox, well-furred and of full size, sell quickly; otter and mink of extra large size wanted; muskrats quiet, not easy to sell, but heavy ones are firm.

**FLOUR AND GRAIN.**—There has been quite a reaction in the English breadstuffs markets since our last reference, and prices for wheat have declined considerably in Liverpool. On Tuesday last there was a drop of 3d per qr. all round for wheat; and yesterday values suffered a further decline of 3d to 6d per quarter. On this continent, however, the situation has grown stronger from day to day, and in Chicago prices for wheat have steadily advanced since last week. The imports of the United Kingdom for the week show the large increase of 165,000 qrs wheat, 30,000 qrs corn, and 75,000 brls flour, as compared with those for the week previous. The wheat crop just harvested in Australia, according to the latest estimates, will show a large falling-off as compared with the previous crop. The N. Y. Bulletin of the 8th inst. calculates, from the estimates of the Department of Agriculture on the 1st July last, that on the 19th February ult. there were on hand in the United States 125,000,000 bushels wheat available for export, and then asks:—What quantity may we expect the export demand to call for during the 19 weeks between February 19 and July 1st? Mr. H. Kains-Jackson, after allowing for imports from all other quarters, estimates that Great Britain will need from the United States 2,000,000 bushels per week, amounting to 38,000,000 bushels. Deducting this demand from the 125,000,000 bushels on hand February 19th, it would follow that we shall have about 87,000,000 bushels of wheat available for shipment to other countries than Great Britain during the last 19 weeks of the crop year. For this France must be our best customer; and yet there is reason to suppose that she has already largely supplied her year's wants. For the first time during the week Chicago was influenced yesterday by the decline in England, and values for No. 2 Spring wheat fell ½c. to ½c. per bushel. New York wheat market rules about steady; and in the local market the only spot movement in grain is an occasional sale of car lots at slight deviations from previously quoted figures. For May delivery there is a disposition to do business, and as soon as freight rates become settled shippers will likely take hold more freely. On Tuesday a cargo lot of pease in warehouse was sold for May delivery at 84½c. free of storage till May 1st. Oats have sold at 35c., and car lots of barley on spot at 75c. White pea beans have changed hands in car lots at \$1.40 to \$1.50 per bushel of 60 lbs. The local flour market has been visibly affected by the easier feeling in England, holders being more anxious to sell the past couple of days, while buyers are not in the market except for what is needed to supply pressing wants. There has been considerable enquiry within the week for low, course grades, which are scarce, and orders received cannot be filled; prices for these, therefore, are a shade firmer, but for the upper grades there is no quotable change in last week's figures.

**GROCERIES.**—Tea.—Japan advices for the small stock of desirable Tea remaining; note

firmness. Choice grades are steady at all points. Ordinary and low qualities dull. Green Teas in Shanghai at late date were rather higher, and there was a fair demand for Pingsneys. Our market shows no special change nor much activity. Black Teas dull. Sugars.—Refined rather firmer, and United States market slightly advanced, but no positive change is made in our quotations; demand fair. In Porto Rico and other West India Sugars business is light. Syrups firm and active. Molasses quiet, and nominally about as last quoted. Rice not active. Coffees.—There is only a moderate trade doing on the basis of late quotations. Spices.—Pepper still firm, although sales not large. Nutmegs, Pimento, Ginger, &c., steady. Fruits.—In Valencia Raisins there is continued firmness, with stocks light. Malaga fruit dull; Currants steady. Figs, market not largely stocked. Sultana Raisins firm. Nuts and Almonds in ordinary demand.

**HARDWARE AND IRON.**—Trade, although not active, is about as good as can be expected under the circumstances. The dampening effect of the recent heavy iron failure, together with the high railway freight rates current, and the unprofitable rivalry among sellers, tend to restrict business, and confine it to more circumscribed limits than is natural even at this quiet period of the year. Orders per travellers for general assortments of shelf and heavy hardware are fairly numerous, but almost invariably small; telegrams from travellers for Montreal houses, asking liberty to make concessions to meet competitors, are about as numerous. Orders for round lots of bar and other manufactured iron and heavy goods generally for delivery in May or June could be booked, if dealers were disposed to sell at cost, nay, more, run the risk of loss in the event of a rising market; while, on the other hand, if prices fall, we are told buyers cancel their order and go elsewhere. Canada tin plates still quiet, and depressed, sales being scarcely sufficient to affect stocks. Ingot copper quoted at \$68.10; stocks are light, while there is a good enquiry. Ingot tin is weak; large quantities are held in New York and London on speculation, and buyers are holding off for lower prices. Pig iron remains quiet, with only a few small sales reported at about our inside quotations; these include car lots of Summerlee and Gartscherie at \$20, and of Coltness at \$21. Latest cable advices quote "Scotch Warrants" 1s. 9d lower than last week, at 49s.

**HIDES AND SKINS.**—Market for native hides quiet and unchanged. The demand is about equal to the supply, and 9c to 9½c per lb. for No. 1 is still paid to butchers, and 10c to dealers by the tanners; but complaints are heard of the hides offering being very grubby, and too high in price still, compared with values for leather. Western hides are reported firmer in the States, but no change in prices here is advised, holders asking 9½c to 10c for No. 1. Several carloads of Western hides are on the way to this market, but no sales have been heard of here during the week. Calfskins meet with a ready sale at 10c per lb. and Sheepskins nominal, at \$1 to \$1.25 each.

**LEATHER.**—Business continues inactive, with an easier market reported for some descriptions. The enquiry is pretty much confined to Buff and Sole, of which moderate quantities are taken by cutters, at steady and unchanged prices. Of Pebble and Splits leather, however, there is a large surplus stock, especially of heavy Splits, which manufacturers are not cutting to any extent, and the market for these is quite weak and demoralized; to force sales of round lots heavy concessions would have to be made, and it would appear that in some quarters such inducements even have failed to secure buyers. It is reported that Upper Canada Splits leather, which was readily sold in the early part of the winter at 32c, was offered recently at 25c,

without finding a buyer. Some leading tanners and dealers are preparing to ship Splits leather rather extensively to England next week, some fifty tons about to go forward which will tend to relieve this market somewhat. Manufacturers are looking around for Upper, with the supposed view of purchasing shortly. Buffalo Sole is becoming rather scarce, and prices are stiffening, under an improved enquiry. Light grades of Buff are also scarce and in good demand, stocks moving out about as rapidly as they are brought into market. Pebble and good Spanish Sole dull.

**LUMBER.**—Local trade quiet, dealers are looking for a brisk trade this spring and summer in building stuff, and lumber for shipping purposes. Square timber is scarce, and prices are advancing. Walnut is quite scarce, and has advanced 20 per cent. from last season's prices. There is a good demand from the States for ash and basswood, of which there is a large supply. Altogether, the season will likely prove as good if not better than last.

**OILS.**—A fair consumptive demand for Coal oil has been experienced, and reported sales include lots of 25 brls. each at 60c Imp. gal.; stocks light. Linseed is getting rather scarce, and prices show an upward tendency, though not quotably higher than last week. In steam refined Seal there is a fair jobbing business being done, at our quotations, which are firmly maintained. Naval Stores.—There has been a slight reaction in New York for Turpentine, in the direction of lower prices, but we have no change to report in this market. There has been a brisk demand for Oakum, at 8c to 8½c, and stocks in first hands are exhausted.

**PETROLEUM.**—Crude Oil has slightly advanced, and holders are firmer, but Refined Burning Oil has declined 1c all round on last week's quotations. The market is unsettled.

**PROVISIONS.**—The Western provision markets have been developing strength and activity during the past few days, especially since the removal of the recent snow blockade in Chicago, and since the falsity of the report of the British Consul at Philadelphia to the Home Government announcing the prevalence of hog cholera in the States has been demonstrated. Similar reports have been circulated throughout other foreign countries, and the Department at Washington has instructed American representatives abroad to protest against such assertions. The Department has also requested the British Legation to deny the report sent by the British Consul to England. The use of American pork had come to be dreaded in Europe from the notion that it abounded in trichina, and until several American commercial bodies established it as a fact that their hogs during the past year have been free from diseases of all kinds, a complete stagnation in hog products existed in Liverpool. Yesterday hogs advanced 5c to 10c in Chicago, mess pork went up 7½c per brl, and lard 7½c per 100 lbs. Sweet pickled hams, averaging 16 to 18 lbs., are offering in Chicago at 9c, equal to about 11½c laid down here. In this market hog products have remained firm since our last report appeared, under a fairly good demand. Canada Mess Pork sells in jobbing lots at \$19 to \$19.50; new Chicago pork is arriving, and held in car lots at \$18.75 to \$19. Stocks of Canada Lard are well-nigh exhausted, and one or two lots of Fairbanks, which will be held at 14c to 14½c, are on the way to this market from Chicago, where it has advanced 30c per 100 lbs. since Monday. Canada lard worth 13½c to 13¾c, in tubs and pails, as to quality. Small lots of 50 each of new Hams have changed hands at 12½c to 13c; not much demand expected before Easter. Dressed Hogs nominally worth \$8.75 to \$9, in small jobbing lots. Eggs rather dull, and with supplies increasing prices are decidedly in buyers' favor; sales slow at 17c to 18c. A few lots of maple syrup have been marketed, and prices quoted are \$1.20 to \$1.25 per Imp.